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I here vertify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached belowed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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(Shawn P. Foley)

Docket No.: FELDER 3.9-001

CONT DIV

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Felder et al.

Application No.: 10/677,983

3 : Group Art Unit: 1632

Filed: October 2, 2003

: Examiner: A. M. Falk

For: G PROTEIN-RELATED KINASE MUTANTS

IN ESSENTIAL HYPERTENSION

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to initiation of the prosecution of the above-identified pending U.S. patent application, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted.